Mountain Weather Forecast

North Grampian

Including North and West Cairngorms National Park, Monadhliath, Ben Alder, Creag Meagaidh, Loch Ericht and Loch Rannoch
Forecast valid from 00:00 on Wednesday 20 Mar 2024 until 23:59 on Thursday 21 Mar 2024

Forecast Issued on Tuesday 19 Mar 2024 at 13:49 by Met Office Aberdeen

Confidence: Low for timing of clearance of cloud cover on Wednesday afternoon. High for rain and milder weather on Thursday. Then high for a change to colder and showery weather from Friday onwards.

Headline for Wednesday 20 Mar 2024: Patchy sleet and snow at first, drier and eventually brighter in the afternoon

Mountain weather hazards on Wednesday 20 Mar 2024

Blizzards No Likelihood	**Heavy persistent snow** No Likelihood	**Storm force winds** No Likelihood
Gales No Likelihood	**Severe chill effect** Medium Likelihood	**Poor visibility** Low Likelihood
Thunderstorms No Likelihood	**Heavy persistent rain** No Likelihood	**Strong sunlight** No Likelihood

Weather and chance of precipitation at 800m							
Time							
00:00	03:00	06:00	09:00	12:00	15:00	18:00	21:00
Cloudy	Light snow	Light snow	Light snow	Cloudy	Sunny intervals	Partly cloudy (night)	Partly cloudy (night)
Precipitation probability							
10%	40%	50%	50%	20%	10%	10%	10%

Forecast for Wednesday 20 Mar 2024

Weather: Cloudy in the morning with some patchy rain and sleet, with snow above 900 metres. It will become dry in the afternoon with cloud gradually breaking from the west to allow some good spells of sunshine. Ranges west of the A9 seeing the best of the afternoon sunshine.

Chance of cloud-free hill tops above 800m: 50%, best west of the A9

Low cloud and visibility: Widely poor in the morning with cloud down to 500 to 800 metres. Much improved visibility in the afternoon as the cloud sheet lifts and breaks from the west, but this may take some time across Cairngorm summit.

Check our weather forecast every day to get the most accurate and up to date information
https://www.metoffice.gov.uk/weather/specialist-forecasts/mountain
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Forecast for Wednesday 20 Mar 2024

Height (m)	Wind Speed mean/gusts (mph)					Wind Direction (blowing from)			
	00:00	03:00	06:00	09:00	12:00	15:00	18:00	21:00	00:00
1300	11/13 SE	11/15 SE	4/6 W	10/14 N	9/13 N	6/9 N	5/7 E	14/19 S	25/33 S
900	5/7 SE	7/9 SE	4/6 E	7/9 NE	7/10 N	5/8 NE	4/5 S	14/18 S	24/32 S
600	4/7 SE	3/5 W	4/5 NE	5/7 E	4/7 NE	4/8 N	3/5 NE	7/10 S	18/28 S
300	1/5 E	2/4 NE	3/5 NE	3/6 N	3/8 NE	5/9 N	3/5 E	3/7 SW	8/19 S
Glen	2/6 N	3/5 N	2/5 N	4/8 NW	5/10 N	3/7 NE	2/5 E	4/11 S	5/17 S

Height (m)	Temperature / Feels Like (°C)								
	00:00	03:00	06:00	09:00	12:00	15:00	18:00	21:00	00:00
1300	-2/-7	-3/-8	-3/-6	-3/-8	-3/-8	-2/-6	-3/-7	-3/-9	-3/-11
900	1/-2	0/-3	0/-2	-0/-4	0/-3	1/-2	1/-1	1/-4	1/-5
600	3/1	2/1	2/0	2/-1	2/0	3/2	3/2	2/-0	2/-3
300	4/4	4/3	4/2	4/2	5/4	6/5	5/4	2/1	3/0
Glen	4/4	4/3	4/3	4/2	7/5	8/6	5/5	4/1	3/0
Freezing Level*	900m	900m	900m	800m	800m	900m	900m	900m	900m

**Level above which ground is expected to be frozen/snow is expected to settle.*

Met Office Aberdeen Meteorologist's View
Low cloud will make for navigational difficulties in the morning especially.

Forecast for Thursday 21 Mar 2024

Weather: A cloudy day with some patchy rain, this mainly around dawn and again in the early afternoon. Ranges east of the A9 may well see a fair amount of dry weather especially northeast of Aviemore. Very windy on the summits with severe gale or storm force winds.

Maximum wind: South to southwesterly 40 mph with gusts to 60 mph, but gusts nearer to 80 mph or more on the Cairngorm summit.

Chance of cloud-free hill tops above 800m: 40%, best chance first thing, and more generally north of Cairngorm

Low cloud and visibility: Poor in areas of cloud down to 500 to 800 metres, lowest cloud bases around Creag Meagaidh, Ben Alder and towards Rannoch Moor where hill fog will be quite persistent and extensive. Low cloud much more broken in the sheltered northeast of the area. Cloud lifting off the tops by early evening with much improved visibility.

Temperature: **Glens:** Plus 2 rising to 11 Celsius
At 800m: Plus 1 rising to 6 Celsius, falling to 1 Celsius after dark
Freezing level: 900 metres at first rising well above summits, falling back to 900 metres after dark

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